

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN,
AND THE
YANKEE FARMER.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 10, 1842.

Executive Power.

The extreme power of the Executive of the United States, how ever so often exerted within a few years that many politicians who were even in favor of a strong government, are now in doubt whether the much weight was not thrown into the executive scale on the first adjustment of the balance of powers in the Constitution.

The party which took the lead in framing that instrument—the old federal party—were extremely solicitous of rendering the government as strong as to be able to withstand all tumultuous attacks, and the greatest force of the old federal party were, that the new government would not be strong enough. They had felt the evils of inefficiency under the old confederation and it was quite natural that in taking the lead, in favor of a new system, they should advocate a plan that should not fail in strength and energy. Accordingly many of the old federalists were in favor of having a *Tariff for life*; and it was feared by some that nothing short of hereditary power would be able to sustain itself against the assaults of popular oppositions.

When the Constitution was submitted to the Legislature of this State for ratification, strenuous opposition was made by the party in opposition, but, on the ground of the great powers given to the central government, of that party's intent to aid, & particular objection was made to the provision whereby the members of the House were to hold their seats for two years.

The ruling party—the strong government party—lived provided; they infused into the new system all the strength they could exert of creating hereditary power. They gave the Executive, or rather the President alone, the right to negative any bill that might be passed by the two houses; and with his simple vote against it nothing short of two thirds in each branch of the Legislature could pass it into a law.

It is true this is but a negative power, and it has never created much jealousy among those who were opposed to excessive grants; still it is an immense power, since it enables any President to bring the majority to his own terms. Money must be granted for current expenses, for the pay of the members; and when one bill is disagreeable to the President alone, he alone can insist that another shall be passed more agreeable to his own views.

It is quite natural for all who are opposed to the general views of any leading party to rejoice when obstructions are thrown in the way of its career; but all who do not intend to be galed and chased to party should take a general view of the subject, instead of confining their minds to the benefits which are sometimes derived from an extraordinary exertion of power by a single individual. One good man might administer the government and pass all the necessary laws better, and at less cost, than two hundred could do it. Yet few would be willing to entrust so much power to an individual; and we should ever bear in mind that great power is liable to great abuse.

But the President of the United States has other powers, granted by the Constitution, which are more liable to be abused than the veto power. The power of nominating every high officer of the nation rests in him and his chief object in conflict is to remove a great proportion of the public officers, without a

THE NEW TARIFF LAW. A cargo of 360 cases of foreign sugar, each containing 100 pounds, was imported from Amsterdam, and paid a duty of 20 per cent ad valorem, or about 18-4 cents a pound. Under the new law the duty is 6 cents a pound, making a difference of over \$12,000. The cargo of foreign sugar was never levied, it was intended to export it to Italy, with the benefit of drawback, but having blundered into a favorable position, it will of course be retained here.

The cargo which appears in the public press seems to be understood as varying in no essential particular from the treaty. By this act through other sources we learn, that the boundary from the mountains at the head of St. Croix river to the Rocky mountains, a distance probably of three thousand miles, has been finally adjusted, though a large portion of this line has until now been in dispute.

It is believed that as all points on this extensive route have been agreed upon, Great Britain conceded the claims of the United States; and among other things, has surrendered an important portion of territory on the line of Vermont and New York, containing a considerable amount of timber land.

Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, offered an *order*, directing a committee to be appointed to inquire into the designs of the Adjutant General, in leaving arms, and other military stores, after the adoption of a motion was made to lay this order upon the table.

Colonel Chamberlain, Sept. 7, 1842.

The Message was laid on the table, and two thousand copies ordered to be printed.

Congress, at this session, has done many creditable things. They have not done half the mischief that was attempted, and they have done more good.

It is to be regretted, however, that it has

been the longest session that was ever held under this government, yet that it has not been the worst one.

Every public bill of importance that was pending in either House yesterday, was finally passed to-day.

The bill reorganizing the Navy Department is

passed and approved.

The bill for Fortifications is passed.

The bill for the sale of the public stock, and authorizing the issue of six millions of Treasury notes in lieu thereof.

Mr. Adams of Boston, from the committee appointed to direct the Commonwealth, presented a report from that committee with a bill, which was read; 12,000 extra copies were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, of Bridgewater, it was ordered that after the day, the regular hours for the meeting of the House, be fixed at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The Committee appointed to consult and report with regard to the action to be taken by the Legislature in the present session, reported that it was expedient to confine themselves to the subject of distributing the Treasury required it.

Mr. Crittenden was opposed to that part of the bill which related to the further issue of Treasury notes.

Messrs. Woodbury and Preston contended for the bill.

And it was ordered to a third reading by the following vote:

Yeas—Tucker, Bagley, Bates, Bayard, Berrien,

Chase, Conrad, Culbertson, Evans, Fulton, King,

Lyon, Phelps, Parker, Rivers, Sevier, Smith of Indiana, Tallmadge, Woodbury, Young—19.

Nay—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Clayton, Crittenden, Durbin, Farnum, Folger, Tappan, White, Woodbridge—9.

Various bills were signed by the President yesterday, and a large number of messages interchanged by the two Houses.

The Secretary of the U. S. was in an adjoining room, and signed the following message to the members of the House with duty newspaper:

A message was received from his Excellency the Governor of Massachusetts.

Mr. Ward of Salem, made a motion to reconvene the House, and a special committee of one from each congressional district, with instructions to report to-morrow noon.

Upon motion of Mr. Thomas of Charlestown, the whole subject matter was laid upon the table.

The same gentleman alluded to the death of Orrin Munday of Northampton, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this House sympathize with the family of the late Orrin Munday in the loss they have sustained in his death.

Resolved, That the speaker transmit to the family of the deceased the expression of their sympathy.

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Mr. Evans made a report, stating that they had performed their duty and that the President had informed them he had no further legislative communications to make; but that he would immediately forward the bill to the Senate, and make no delay necessary by the passage of the bill to organize the Navy Department.

A message was received from the House of Representatives, stating that they had concurred in the resolution of the Senate, appointing a Committee to examine into the subject.

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A message was received from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that the bill was ready to close the present session of Congress.

A message was received from the President, concerning the Executive nominations above referred to; and at half past two o'clock the Senate went into an executive session; and subsequently adjourned sine die.

In the House, Mr. Wise moved to amend the journal, so as to insert thereon the "protest" of the President.

The Speaker decided that such a motion could not be entertained, inasmuch as the House on yesterday adopted a resolution to the effect that the protest should not go on to the Journal.

Mr. McLean moved to lay the speech on the table.

The Clerk commanding calling the Yeas and Nays, when Mr. Wise, by general consent, withdrew the bill establishing additional port posts, as amended by the Senate was taken up and the amendment concurred in. So the bill is finally passed.

Mr. Cushing presented a statement that Mr. Webster relative to the removal of the clerk Sylvester, was called on him with the "draft, etc." was the name Sylvester. Mr. W. expresses his firm belief that the gross calumnies, with which Sylvester was charged, are true.

The statement was made to the House, together with affidavits, as a matter of justice to Mr. Webster.

Mr. Cushing gave notice that he will move to call up the Exchequer scheme at the next session. Several other members gave notice of bills.

A Committee on the part of the House was appointed to a Committee of the Senate, for the purpose of awaiting the President's assent.

After the lapse of a quarter of an hour, Mr. Cushing gave notice that the duty had been performed, and the amendment had not had further communication to make.

Mr. Stanley—Is that all? At half past two,

On motion of Mr. Howard, the House adjourned.

FATAL RAILROAD ACCIDENT. Wednesday morning as Mr. Hopes of South Salem, with his son, an interesting youth of fourteen years of age, was walking from Lyndon to Salem on the railroad track, he heard the train coming from the opposite direction. The engine sounded their alarm whistles, and Mr. Hopes turned round to look at the train from the opposite side of the road. The train was close behind him. He avoided the contact by springing from the track, but the cars passed over his son William Henry, who was shockingly mangled, and died in a few minutes.

A correspondent of the Hartford Courant states,

that two cows died recently in New Haven, Conn.,

in consequence of eating wild cherry leaves in a wilted state. The bush had been cut about two hours, and one of the cows died after eating forty minutes after eating the other after a little longer.

The writer says that the leaves in a wilted state are a most deadly poison; and cattle eat them with avidity, being of a sweetish taste.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, Mr. Joseph T. Hale to Miss Sophia S. Holt; Mr. John Brown to Miss Eliza P. Lewis.

In Roxbury, 6th inst., John S. Johnson, of Dorval, to Miss Anna J. Johnson.

In Franklin, Mr. Capo Walter Matthews, of Franklin, to Miss Marion Cope of Boston.

In Worcester, Lorenzo West of Petersham, to Miss Mary A. Claffin.

In Southborough, Mr. Eliza C. Holmes of Hopkinton, to Miss Susan H. Whiting.

In Wrentham, Mr. Edward R. Newell to Mrs. Maria, widow of Mr. Edward R. Newell.

In New Bedford, Miss Samuel Lockwood, U. S. Army, to Miss Maria, daughter of the late Capt. Joseph Lockwood.

In Wrentham, Capt. Reuben E. Swift to Miss Statira.

DEATHS.

Mary Ann wife of Mr. George W.

Daughter of Mr. Wm. F. Haraden, in R. Govt. 25.

Mr. Wm. F. Haraden, 49.

Mr. H. Graham, only child of the Grahams of Boston, 54 years old.

Mr. G. Young, youngest child of Mr. Wm. Young, 67.

Miss Anna, wife of Mr. Wyman.

Rev. Mr. Wm. W. W. W. a revolutionary person, died at his residence in New Bedford, 80.

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